HOUSE No. 2898

By Mr. Festa of Melrose, petition of Michael E. Festa and others relative to choices for certain persons seeking admission to a long-term care facility. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Michael E. Festa Peter V. Kocot Barbara A. L'Italien Kathleen M. Teahan Patricia D. Jehlen Mark C. Montigny Anne M. Paulsen Patricia A. Walrath Bruce E. Tarr Kathi-Anne Reinstein Stephen Kulik Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. Mary E. Grant **Shirley Gomes** Ruth B. Balser Paul J. Donato Brian Knuuttila Deborah D. Blumer William C. Galvin Robert J. Nyman Joyce A. Spiliotis Christopher G. Fallon Theodore C. Speliotis Cory Atkins Emile J. Goguen James B. Leary David B. Sullivan David M. Torrisi Carl M. Sciortino, Jr. **David Paul Linsky** Christopher J. Donelan Gale D. Candaras Douglas W. Petersen Patricia A. Haddad William Smitty Pignatelli Alice K. Wolf John W. Scibak James J. Marzilli, Jr. Jay R. Kaufman Elizabeth A. Malia Frank I. Smizik Robert M. Koczera Michael J. Rodrigues Shirley Owens Hicks Susan W. Pope Philip Travis Bradley H. Jones, Jr. Michael F. Rush Thomas A. Golden, Jr. Jennifer M. Callahan William G. Greene, Jr. Charles A. Murphy Edward G. Connolly Brian S. Dempsey Rachel Kaprielian Pamela P. Resor James R. Miceli Bruce J. Ayers Christine E. Canavan Antonio F. D. Cabral Frank M. Hynes Thomas J. O'Brien

Thomas M. Stanley Jeffrey Sánchez Patrick M. Natale Mark J. Carron Douglas W. Petersen Alice Hanlon Peisch Walter F. Timilty

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT REGARDING CHOICE OF LONG-TERM CARE SETTING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 9 of chapter one hundred and eighteen E is
- 2 hereby amended by striking, in the second paragraph, the
- 3 following sentence:—
- 4 provided, further, that said benefits shall be available to other-
- 5 wise eligible persons seeking admission to and residents of long-
- 6 term care facilities whose income and resources are insufficient to
- 7 meet the cost of their medical care as determined by the financial
- 8 eligibility requirements of said program.
- 9 and replacing it with the following new sentence:—
- provided, further, that said benefits shall be available to other-
- 11 wise eligible persons seeking long term care whose income and
- 12 resources are insufficient to meet the cost of their medical care as
- 13 determined by the financial eligibility requirements of said pro-
- 14 gram. For the purposes of this chapter, the division shall establish
- 15 clinical eligibility for a long term care benefit, so-called. Any
- 16 person determined by the division as clinically eligible for said
- 17 long term care benefit shall be given the choice of care setting that
- 18 is the least restrictive and most appropriate to meet his or her
- 19 needs. The dollars that are provided for said long term care benefit
- 20 shall follow such individual as his or her setting of care changes.
 - SECTION 2. The division shall promulgate regulations to
- 2 implement the provisions of this section.